

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 was rejected as being indefinite. Claim 1 has been amended to provide antecedent for the limitation "a finishing device" and applicant submits that claim 1 as amended conforms to the statute and is also allowable.

Claims 2 and 3 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but found to be otherwise allowable. Applicant submits that amended claim 1 is now allowable and that claims 2 and 3 are also allowable.

Claims 4-13 were rejected as being obvious over Caspar '452 in view of Lindblad '643 or Kotitschke '860. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in view of amended claim 4.

Caspar discloses that waterjet cutting device 56 of the edge slit of the threading tail and waterjet cutting device 30 of the tail are arranged just before the nip. Waterjet 30 cuts off the threading tail that has already been cut by water cutting device 56. Thereby cutting jet 30 cuts a new threading tail and wets the surface of the roll 12 in such a way that the threading tail will adhere to the roll 12 and will thereupon proceed through the nip 21.

Caspar does not provide any teaching or suggestion of a wetting device arranged before the cutting device 56. Nor is there any reference as to where or why a wetting device would be in use in the tail threading process. Furthermore, nothing is disclosed in the reference about the condition of the web before the cutting device 56.

Lindblad discloses controlling the moisture profile of the paper web in the dryer section. Therein a moisture profile of the web is measured by moisture sensor 19'. And based on this measure spraying nozzles 18 are controlled by control equipment 18' attached to them. Thereby Lindblad teaches moistening the paper web under production and evening out the moisture profile of the paper.

Moreover, in Lindblad there is no mention or reference to tail threading or the time window during the tail threading phase. During the tail threading phase there is no need to detect the moisture profile of the web or of moisture control based on the measure. The moisturizing process during the production phase in Lindblad does not provide any of the advantages that are sought in and provided by applicant's invention. That is the strength of the web before the cutting. Neither are there any references to a cutting device therein.

Kotitschke like Lindblad lacks any references to the tail threading process. Therein moistening of the web is described in which a moistening device is placed at the end of single-felt dryer groups just before a double-felt dryer group. The moistening device is subdivided into zones, so that the moistening profile can be controlled. The purpose of the invention in Kotitschke is to control the curling of the web.

It is apparent that the inventions of both Lindblad and Kotitschke relate to the moistening of the paper that goes to the customer. Thus the object of these inventions is the moistening of the final product and the controlling of its moisture profile.

In applicant's invention the moistened paper goes to the pulper (the whole wide part of the web and almost everything from the threading tail). So it becomes apparent that the cited references are different in structure and function than applicants'

invention. Contrary to the cited references which seek to condition the final product, applicants' seek to improve runnability by providing means for quickly returning paper production to normal production after a break in the web occurs (because of more reliable tail threading).

Thus the combination of Lindblad and Kotitschke can not produce the invention described in the application. Combining the cutting device of the threading tail with the moistening process carried out during the production, makes only the drying section known, where there are placed the mentioned devices. During the production the web is moistened and during the tail threading it is cut. However applicants' arrangement of wetting devices before cutting devices and arranged to wet the web for the duration of the tail-threading phase is not taught or suggested.

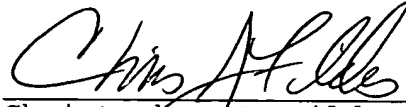
It therefore becomes apparent that it is novel and non-obvious to arrange full width wetting devices and cutting devices depending on each other (wetting devices before cutting device) and wet the full width of the web particularly during the cutting. To adapt a wetting device to operate during the tail threading process is also a novel, non-obvious feature.

Applicants submit that the skilled artisan would not combine the dryer section taught by Caspar with the water sprayers and nozzles of Kotitschke and Lindblad for the aforesaid reasons. As such applicants submit that the claims as amended clearly distinguish over the cited art and applicants respectfully request withdrawal of any rejection based on Caspar, Lindblad and Kotitschke.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance which is respectfully requested.

U.S. Serial No. 10/044,399 -6-

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Goodall et al.  
Fildes & Outland, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Chris J. Fildes", written in black ink.

Christopher J. Fildes, Attorney  
Registration No. 32,132  
20916 Mack Avenue, Suite 2  
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI 48236  
(313) 885-1500

AMENDMENTS

Version with markings to show changes made

Claims 1, and 4 have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A method in tail threading in a paper machine, in which the paper web is dried in production by means of a plurality of dryer groups consisting of a dryer section, and in which tail threading the threading tail is cut, taken as wetted to [the] a finishing device, and spread to its full width for production, and in which method, before the threading tail is taken to the finishing device, the dryer section is kept in the settings of production operation or is set to otherwise correspond to production, except that a wetting process is started, in which the web is wetted at the full width for the duration of the tail threading, essentially before its cutting, to achieve an even moisturizing effect, and the wetting process is stopped after web is being spread.

4. (Amended) An arrangement in a paper machine, which includes a multi-stage dryer section, threading tail cutting devices, a finishing device, and devices to take the threading tail to the finishing device, and possible rewetting devices, characterized in that the arrangement includes full width wetting devices on the middle of the dryer section before cutting devices and which are arranged to wet the web, essentially over its full width, for the duration of the tail-threading phase and a control for controlling the wetting devices according to a tail threading sequence.